

FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION

FACTUAL AND LEGAL ANALYSIS

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3 RESPONDENTS: Dowling for Congress and MUR 7446
4 Lysa Ray in her official capacity as treasurer
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6 This matter was generated by a Complaint alleging violations of the Federal Election
7 Campaign Act of 1971, as amended (“the Act”) and Commission regulations by Dowling for
8 Congress and Lysa Ray in her official capacity as treasurer. It was scored as a low-rated matter
9 under the Enforcement Priority System, by which the Commission uses formal scoring criteria as
10 a basis to allocate its resources and decide which matters to pursue.

11 The Complainant alleges that the Committee failed to file its 2018 July Quarterly
12 Report.¹ The Committee asserts that it had not raised or spent more than \$5,000 by the end of
13 June 2018 and, therefore, was not required to file the report.²

14 Within fifteen days of becoming a candidate,³ the candidate must designate a principal
15 campaign committee by filing a Statement of Candidacy.⁴ The principal campaign committee
16 must then file a Statement of Organization no later than ten days after designation by the
17 candidate.⁵ If the individual seeking federal office has not attained candidate status, his or her
18 principal campaign committee may choose to, but is not required to, file disclosure reports.⁶

¹ Compl. at 1 (July 30, 2018).

² Resp. at 1 (Aug. 13, 2018). The Committee’s 2018 Pre-Primary Report is consistent with the Committee’s Statement. Dowling for Congress 2018 Pre-Primary Report, available at <http://docquery.fec.gov/pdf/396/201808169119650396/201808169119650396.pdf>.

³ 52 U.S.C. § 30101(2); 11 C.F.R. § 100.3.

⁴ 52 U.S.C. § 30102(e)(1); 11 C.F.R. § 101.1(a).

⁵ 52 U.S.C. § 30103(a); 11 C.F.R. § 102.1(a).

⁶ 52 U.S.C. § 30104(a); 11 C.F.R. § 104.1(b).

1 There are no available facts showing that the Committee was required to file a 2018 July
2 Quarterly Report, and the Committee denies passing the reporting threshold at that time.⁷
3 Therefore, the Commission finds no reason to believe that Dowling for Congress and Lysa Ray
4 in her official capacity as treasurer violated 52 U.S.C. § 30104(a) or 11 C.F.R. § 104.1.

⁷ According to the Committee's 2018 Pre-Primary and Termination Reports, the Committee did not receive over \$5,000 in contributions until August 2018. Dowling for Congress 2018 Pre-Primary Report, available at <http://docquery.fec.gov/pdf/396/201808169119650396/201808169119650396.pdf>; Dowling for Congress Termination Report, available at <http://docquery.fec.gov/pdf/910/201809129121698910/201809129121698910.pdf>. Although it is not possible to confirm the exact date the Committee exceeded \$5,000 in expenditures, given the outstanding debts reflected on the Pre-Primary Report, there is no information available to suggest that it was before July 2018. *Id.*